

Motorcycle License: Instructional Permit

City and County of Honolulu • Department of Customer Services

Applying for a motorcycle instructional permit

You must have a motorcycle instruction permit issued by the City and County of Honolulu when learning to operate a motorcycle, moped or motor scooter on Oahu's public roadways. To obtain a motorcycle instructional permit, you are required to pass both the general driver knowledge test and a special motorcycle examination. These examinations test your knowledge about the rules of the road, highway signs, and the special skill and safety precautions needed to operate a motorcycle.

Resources:

- [Hawaii Motorcycle Operator Manual](#)
- [Hawaii Drivers Manual](#)

Application Process:

- Schedule an [appointment](#) at any full-service driver licensing center on Oahu.
- Refer to the required Real ID documents [online interactive guide](#) or [online list](#) to make sure you have all of the required Real ID documents that you need to bring with you for your application appointment.
- Download, complete and print a [State of Hawaii Driver's License Application](#) to apply for a Class 2 Instruction Permit.
- Bring your completed application and all required documents with you to your appointment.
- You will also need to pass a vision screening test and submit to fingerprinting during your appointment.
- Take the motorcycle written test and, if you do not currently have a Class 3 Driver's License, you will also need to take and pass the general driver knowledge examination.

Upon satisfactory completion of the following, you will be issued an instruction permit that is valid for one year:

- Submission of all required documents;
- Completion of the vision test and fingerprinting;
- Successfully pass knowledge examination(s);
- Fee payment of \$2 per each written test and \$5 permit fee; and
- Photographing.

The driver licensing center will issue a temporary permit and the permanent plastic permit will be mailed to you in six to eight weeks.

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You have an Instruction Permit, now what?

Motorcycle Instruction Permit Restrictions

- You are not allowed to carry passengers.
- You are not allowed to operate a motorcycle during the hours of darkness while learning to ride with a permit.
- Your permit may be renewed *if* you have taken a skill test prior to the expiration of the motorcycle instruction permit.
- If your permit expires before you take a skill test at least once, you must wait three months before applying for another motorcycle instruction permit.
- If your instruction permit is lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated/illegible, you may order a [duplicate permit](#) online.

Driver's Education Certificate Requirements:

- Drivers under 18 are required to take driving lessons at a driver's education program certified by the Hawaii Department of Transportation.
- If you are 16 to 18 years old, you must earn a Driver Education Student Completion Certificate and a Behind-the-Wheel Student Completion Certificate, and you are required to practice driving on your motorcycle instructional permit for at least 90 days before you can take the skills test.

Driver Performance Test:

- You are required to successfully complete an off-street skill test to get a motorcycle or motor scooter license in Hawaii.
- The skills test may be waived if you have a motorcycle skills test Certification for Waiver issued by the Hawaii Motorcycle Safety Education Program or a valid motorcycle license or endorsement from another state.
- Off-street skills testing is conducted on a walk-in basis on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Commercial Driver Licensing Office, 897 Second St. in Pearl City; a limited number of skills tests are administered on those days, and sign up for same-day testing is from 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m. only on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- For the off-street skills test, you must provide a motorcycle in safe operating condition with a current registration, current safety inspection certificate and liability insurance identification card.
- The [Hawaii Motorcycle Manual](#) lists motorcycle and safety equipment requirements.

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